

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5889

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, UN

SUBJECT: KOREAN QUESTION AT UNGA: UNCURK REPORT

REF: SEOUL 5870

1. THE FOLLOWING IS AGREED LANGUAGE OF CONCLUDING
OBSERVATIONS SECTION OF UNCURK REPORT
SIGNED IN SEOUL AUGUST 30.

2. SINCE ITS INCEPTION, UNCURK HAS FAITHFULLY
WORKED TO CARRY OUT THE MANDATE GIVEN IT BY THE
UNGA. IT HAS ALERTLY AND TO THE BEST OF ITS
ABILITY OBSERVED THE STATE OF AFFAIRS ON THE
KOREAN PENINSULA AND HAS KEPT THE UNITED NATIONS
REGULARLY AND FULLY INFORMED. WHILE THE PEACEFUL
UNIFICATION OF KOREA HAS NOT YET PROVED POSSIBLE
DESPITE THE BEST EFFORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
UNCURK HAS TAKEN EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO CULTIVATE
AN ATMOSPHERE OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION
BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA AS AN ESSENTIAL
PRECONDITION OF PEACEFUL UNIFICATION.

3. THE TASKS OF REHABILITATING THE KOREAN
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ECONOMY WERE OF GREAT MAGNITUDE AND UNCURK MADE

AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AS FAR AS CIRCUMSTANCES
ALLOWED IT IN CARRYING OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR RELIEF AND REHABILITATION.

4. WHEN ON 4 JULY, 1972 THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
AND DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA
ISSUED A JOINT COMMUNIQUE AGREEING IN PRINCIPLE
TO THE PEACEFUL AND INDEPENDENT UNIFICATION OF
KOREA AND PROVIDING FOR THE SETTING UP OF A
SOUTH/NORTH CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THIS
PURPOSE AND A "HOT LINE" CONNECTION BETWEEN SEOUL
AND PYONGYANG, UNCURK WARMLY WELCOMED THIS
DEVELOPMENT AS A NOTABLE EVIDENCE OF DIMINISHED
TENSION AND AS A HOPEFUL AUGURY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF AN EFFECTIVE NEGOTIATING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. IN RECORDING THESE VIEWS IN
ITS 1972 REPORT, UNCURK REMARKED THAT IT WAS
PREMATURE TO DRAW FIRM CONCLUSIONS UNTIL
IMPLEMENTATION HAD GONE FURTHER BEYOND A
STATEMENT OF INTENTION THAN WAS THEN THE CASE.
THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE CONVENED FOR ITS
FIRST FORMAL MEETING ON 30TH NOVEMBER 1972 AND
HAS TO DATE HELD TWO OTHER SUCH MEETINGS AS WELL
AS WORKING GROUP MEETINGS. ALTHOUGH, AT THE
MOMENT OF SIGNING OF THIS REPORT, DISAGREEMENT
HAS ARISEN BETWEEN THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THIS COMMITTEE,
BOTH SIDES HAVE REITERATED THEIR WILLINGNESS
TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE.

5. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE KORAN PROBLEM
DEMANDS THAT ALL APPPOSITE AND ACCEPTABLE MEANS
OF PROMOTING THE PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF KOREA
SHOULD BE MADE USE OF, AND UNCURK BELIEVES THAT
THE UNITED NATIONS IN PARTICULAR SHOULD NOT
CEASE TO ASSESS WITH IMAGINATION AND FLEXIBILITY
WHAT ITS OWN ROLE SHOULD BE.

6. GIVING DUE WEIGHT TO THESE CONSIDERATIONS AND
TO DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE PAST YEAR, THE MEMBERS
OF UNCURK EXPRESS THEIR CONSIDERED JUDGMENT THAT THE
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PRESENCE IN KOREA OF UNCURK IS NO LONGER REQUIRED
AND THEY ACCORDINGLY RECOMMEND THAT UNCURK SHOULD
BE DISSOLVED.

7. THE MEMBERS OF UNCURK MAKE THIS RECOMMENDATION
WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE ACCEPTED AUTHORITY AND
COMPETENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS WITHIN THE
TERMS OF THE CHARTER TO TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IT

MAY DEEM NECESSARY, IN THE INTEREST OF PRESERVING
PEACE AND SECURITY, TO MAINTAIN POLITICAL
OVERSIGHT OF THE SITUATION IN THE KOREAN
PENINSULA.
ADLER

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